

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 190655 TOSEC 080316
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:GMATTHEWS:TL
APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY
EUR/SOV:MGARRISON
NEA/IAI:WBSMITH (SUBSTANCE)
S/MS:MDSHULMAN
S/S:PTARNOFF

-----109167 120112Z /61

O 120049Z AUG 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 190655 TOSEC 080316

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, XF

SUBJECT:REPLY TO SOVIET DEMARCHE ON MIDDLE EAST

REFERENCE: (A) STATE 187015 (TOSEC 080208)
(B) MOSCOW 11442
(C) SECTO 8131

1. ACTING SECRETARY PROVIDED SOVIET CHARGE VASEV AT
12:00 AUGUST 11 WITH OUR REPLY TO SOVIET DEMARCHE ON MIDDLE
EAST OF AUGUST 6. YOU SHOULD THUS SEEK APPOINTMENT THERE
IN ORDER TO MAKE PARALLEL DELIVERY OF POINTS OUTLINED REF
(A), AS AMENDED BY THE DELETION RECOMMENDED REF (B). THERE
ARE NO RPT NO CHANGES TO THE TALKING POINTS OTHER THAN YOUR
SECRET

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DELETION IN NINTH TICK.

2. IN MAKING THE POINTS TO VASEV, THE ACTING SECRETARY
PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZED THAT IN SUCH SITUATIONS WE CAN AVOID
DISHARMONY BY SIMPLY ASKING FOR CLARIFICATION RATHER THAN
MAKING ACCUSATORY DEMARCHES. HE ALSO UNDERLINED THAT ALL OF
US HERE WERE SURPRISED AND PUZZLED BY, AND VERY MUCH REGRET,

THE CAMPAIGN IN THE SOVIET PRESS QUESTIONING THE MOTIVES OF

THE SECRETARY'S TRIP, ADDING THAT IF WE HAD HAD OTHER MOTIVES THE SECRETARY WOULD HARDLY HAVE BRIEFED MR. VASEV AS FRANKLY AS HE DID BEFORE DEPARTING.

3. VASEV SAID HE WOULD PROMPTLY COMMUNICATE OUR VIEWS TO MOSCOW AND WAS SURE THEY WOULD BE GIVEN CONSIDERATION THERE. HE DISAGREED WITH OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE TONE OF HIS AUGUST 6 PRESENTATION AND THOUGHT WE WERE READING TOO MUCH INTO IT. HE SAID WE HAVE A BUSINESSLIKE RELATIONSHIP IN WHICH IF EITHER SIDE HAS CONCERNS THEY ARE FRANKLY EXPRESSED. HIS READING OF THE SOVIET PRESS IS THAT SOVIET COMMENTATORS ARE MERELY REFLECTING THE FACT THAT WE HAVE QUITE DIFFERENT VIEWS ON SOLVING THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION. THE SOVIET PRESS WAS CRITICIZING NOT WHAT THE SECRETARY WAS SAYING, BUT THE US ATTITUDE ON PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION. ASKED WHAT IS THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION, VASEV REPLIED THAT THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIANS SHOULD TAKE PART IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. AS TO HOW THAT WOULD BE DONE THAT IS UP TO THE ARABS TO FIGURE OUT.

4. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID THAT VASEV'S EXPLANATION ABOUT SOVIET PRESS COMMENTARY LEFT HIM EVEN MORE PUZZLED THAN BEFORE. THE SECRETARY HAS DEVOTED MORE TIME TO
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PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION THAN TO ANY OTHER SUBJECT DURING HIS LONG AND ARDUOUS TRIP. HE HAS BEEN STRUGGLING TO FIND AN APPROACH THE ARABS CAN AGREE ON AND WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ISRAEL. THIS CANNOT BE DECREED BECAUSE WE ARE DEALING WITH SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

5. VASEV SAID HE WAS ONLY DESCRIBING THE BASIS FOR CRITICISM BY THEIR PRESS. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAS THE CAPACITY TO AFFECT WHAT APPEARS IN THE SOVIET PRESS, AND CONCLUDED BY EXPRESSING REGRET THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO HAVE THIS EXCHANGE ARISING OUT OF LAST WEEK'S UNNECESSARILY ACCUSATORY DEMARCHE. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS WILL CLEAR THE AIR AND PROVIDE THE CLARIFICATION THE SOVIET SIDE WANTED. CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

APPROVED BY:S/S:SGOLDSMITH

-----111862 120449Z /15

O 120425Z AUG 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 190655

NODIS

FOR Z. BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 190655 SENT ACTION SECRETARY MOSCOW AUG. 12,
1977 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 190655 TOSEC 080316

NODIS

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SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, DEMARCHE, PALESTINIANS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PEACE PLANS, CAT-B
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: GMATTHEWS:TL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPLY TO SOVIET DEMARCHE ON MIDDLE EAST
TAGS: PDEV, PBOR, PDIP, UR, US, XF
To: SECRETARY MOSCOW
Type: TE
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